

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3079

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for suicide prevention activities with respect to children and adolescents.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2000

Mr. HATCH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for suicide prevention activities with respect to children and adolescents.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SUICIDE PREVENTION.**

4 Subpart 3 of part B of title V of the Public Health
5 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–31 et seq) is amended by
6 adding at the end the following:

7 **“SEC. 520C. SUICIDE PREVENTION FOR CHILDREN AND**
8 **ADOLESCENTS.**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award
10 grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements to States, po-

1 litical subdivisions of States, Indian tribes, tribal organiza-
 2 tions, public organizations, or private nonprofit organiza-
 3 tions to establish programs to reduce suicide deaths in the
 4 United States among children and adolescents.

5 “(b) COLLABORATION.—In carrying out subsection
 6 (a), the Secretary shall ensure that activities under this
 7 section are coordinated among the Substance Abuse and
 8 Mental Health Services Administration, the relevant insti-
 9 tutes at the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for
 10 Disease Control and Prevention, the Health Resources
 11 and Services Administration, and the Administration on
 12 Children and Families.

13 “(c) REQUIREMENTS.—A State, political subdivision
 14 of a State, Indian tribe, tribal organization, public organi-
 15 zation, or private nonprofit organization desiring a grant,
 16 contract, or cooperative agreement under this section shall
 17 demonstrate that the suicide prevention program such en-
 18 tity proposes will—

19 “(1) provide for the timely assessment, treat-
 20 ment, or referral for mental health or substance
 21 abuse services of children and adolescents at risk for
 22 suicide;

23 “(2) be based on best evidence-based, suicide
 24 prevention practices and strategies that are adapted
 25 to the local community;

1 “(3) integrate its suicide prevention program
2 into the existing health care system in the commu-
3 nity including primary health care, mental health
4 services, and substance abuse services;

5 “(4) be integrated into other systems in the
6 community that address the needs of children and
7 adolescents including the educational system, juve-
8 nile justice system, welfare and child protection sys-
9 tems, and community youth support organizations;

10 “(5) use primary prevention methods to educate
11 and raise awareness in the local community by dis-
12 seminating evidence-based information about suicide
13 prevention;

14 “(6) include suicide prevention, mental health,
15 and related information and services for the families
16 and friends of those who completed suicide, as need-
17 ed;

18 “(7) provide linguistically appropriate and cul-
19 turally competent services, as needed;

20 “(8) provide a plan for the evaluation of out-
21 comes and activities at the local level, according to
22 standards established by the Secretary, and agree to
23 participate in a national evaluation; and

24 “(9) ensure that staff used in the program are
25 trained in suicide prevention and that professionals

1 involved in the system of care have received training
2 in identifying persons at risk of suicide.

3 “(d) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts provided under
4 grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements under sub-
5 section (a) shall be used to supplement and not supplant
6 other Federal, State, and local public funds that are ex-
7 pended to provide services for eligible individuals.

8 “(e) CONDITION.—An applicant for a grant, contract,
9 or cooperative agreement under subsection (a) shall dem-
10 onstrate to the Secretary that the applicant has the sup-
11 port of the local community and relevant public health of-
12 ficials.

13 “(f) SPECIAL POPULATIONS.—In awarding grants,
14 contracts, and cooperative agreements under subsection
15 (a), the Secretary shall ensure that such awards are made
16 in a manner that will focus on the needs of communities
17 or groups that experience high or rapidly rising rates of
18 suicide.

19 “(g) APPLICATION.—A State, political subdivision of
20 a State, Indian tribe, tribal organization, public organiza-
21 tion, or private nonprofit organization receiving a grant,
22 contract, or cooperative agreement under subsection (a)
23 shall prepare and submit an application to the Secretary
24 at such time, in such manner, and containing such infor-
25 mation as the Secretary may reasonably require. Such ap-

1 plication shall include a plan for the rigorous evaluation
2 of activities funded under the grant, contract, or coopera-
3 tive agreement, including a process and outcome evalua-
4 tion.

5 “(h) DISTRIBUTION OF AWARDS.—In awarding
6 grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements under sub-
7 section (a), the Secretary shall ensure that such awards
8 are distributed among the geographical regions of the
9 United States and between urban and rural settings.

10 “(i) EVALUATION.—A State, political subdivision of
11 a State, Indian tribe, tribal organization, public organiza-
12 tion, or private nonprofit organization receiving a grant,
13 contract, or cooperative agreement under subsection (a)
14 shall prepare and submit to the Secretary at the end of
15 the program period, an evaluation of all activities funded
16 under this section.

17 “(j) DISSEMINATION AND EDUCATION.—The Sec-
18 retary shall ensure that findings derived from activities
19 carried out under this section are disseminated to State,
20 county and local governmental agencies and public and
21 private nonprofit organizations active in promoting suicide
22 prevention and family support activities.

23 “(k) DURATION OF PROJECTS.—With respect to a
24 grant, contract, or cooperative agreement awarded under
25 this section, the period during which payments under such

1 award may be made to the recipient may not exceed 5
2 years.

3 “(l) STUDY.—Within 1 year after the date of enact-
4 ment of this section, the Secretary shall, directly or by
5 grant or contract, initiate a study to assemble and analyze
6 data to identify—

7 “(1) unique profiles of children under 13 who
8 attempt or complete suicide;

9 “(2) unique profiles of youths between ages 13
10 and 21 who attempt or complete suicide; and

11 “(3) a profile of services which might have been
12 available to these groups and the use of these serv-
13 ices by children and youths from paragraphs (1) and
14 (2).

15 “(m) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of carrying
17 out this section, there is authorized to be appro-
18 priated \$75,000,000 for fiscal year 2001 and such
19 sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal
20 years 2002 and 2003.

21 “(2) PROGRAM MANAGEMENT.—In carrying out
22 this section, the Secretary shall use 1 percent of the
23 amount appropriated under paragraph (1) for each

- 1 fiscal year for managing programs under this sec-
- 2 tion.”.

